

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a request for filing a X continuation or ___ divisional application
under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b), of pending prior application:

Serial No. 10/266,638
Filed on October 9, 2002
Of John POPE et al.
Entitled: In-Situ Detection and Analysis of Methane in Coal Bed
Methane Formations with Spectrometers
Examiner: Sang H. Nguyen
Group: 2877

- X 1. Accompanying this order is a true copy of the prior application as
originally filed.

Total pages 45

- X 2. New Formal drawings are being filed herewith consisting of 4
sheets, depicting Figures 1-4.

- X 3. Declaration and Power of Attorney:

a. ___ Newly executed (original or copy)

b. X Copy from prior application

i. ___ Deletion of Inventors - signed statement
attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior
application

- X 4. Incorporation by Reference:

The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of
the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 3b, is considered as
being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is
hereby incorporated by reference therein.

- ___ 5. Cancel original claims .

- X 6. Small entity status:
- a. ___ Applicant claims small entity status.
- b. X Is no longer claimed

- X 7. The filing fee is calculated below:

**CLAIMS AS FILED, INCLUDING ANY CLAIMS
CANCELLED OR ADDED BY PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Basic Fee							<u>\$375</u>		<u>\$750</u>
Total Claims	<u>76</u>	-	<u>20</u>	=	<u>56</u>	x	<u>9</u>	=	<u>\$ 18 = \$1,008</u>
Ind. Claims	<u>4</u>	-	<u>3</u>	=	<u>1</u>	x	<u>42</u>	=	<u>\$ 84 = \$84</u>
	Multiple Dependent Claims					+	<u>140</u>	=	<u>\$ 280 = \$</u>
					Total			<u>\$</u>	<u>\$1,842</u>

- ___ 8. Please charge my Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #___) in the amount of \$___.
- X 9. Two checks in the amount of \$1,842.00 for the filing fee and \$40.00 for the assignment recording fee are enclosed..
- X 10. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee which may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 37 CFR 1.17 or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #038707.49859C1).
- X 11. Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence: --This application is a continuation of application Serial No. 10/266,638, filed October 9, 2002.--
- ___ 12. Priority of Appln. No(s). ___, filed in ___ on ___, is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. 119(e).
- ___ 13. A certified copy of each said priority document was filed in application Serial No. ___ on ___.
- X 14. Recordation Form Cover Sheet and copy of Assignment.
- X 15. The power of attorney:
- X a. Appears in the original application papers in the prior application.
- ___ b. Does not appear in the original application papers, and a copy of the power in the prior application is enclosed.

— c. Attached is a duplicate of a Supplemental Declaration which was filed in the prior application to overcome informalities.

X d. Address all future correspondence to:

CROWELL & MORING LLP
Intellectual Property Group
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300

Customer No.

23911

X 16. Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO-1449 listing prior art made of record in the prior application are attached. A copy of each of the listed references should be available in the prior application file.


— 17. A Preliminary Amendment is being filed herewith.

X 18. Return Receipt Postcard.

X 19. Other: Application Data Sheet

Respectfully submitted,

September 24, 2003


William G. Ackerman
Registration No. 45,320

CROWELL & MORING LLP
Intellectual Property Group
1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20005
Tel: (202) 624-2500
Fax: (202) 628-8844
WGA/mys